

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 94-213-C - ORDER NO. 94-629 ✓  
JUNE 30, 1994

IN RE: Request of AT&T Communications for	)	ORDER GRANTING
Approval of Revisions to Its General	)	REQUEST TO
Services Tariff.	)	WITHDRAW
	)	PARTICIPATION
	)	AND APPROVING
	)	TARIFF REVISIONS

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of a tariff filing by AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Inc. (AT&T or the Company). By its tariff filing, AT&T seeks to reprice and restructure Coin Sent Paid Service by introducing new usage rate schedules for Operator Station Sent Paid Coin and Person-to-Person Sent Paid Coin calls and by changing the initial billing period for these calls from one (1) minute to three (3) minutes.

By letter dated March 22, 1994, the Commission's Executive Director instructed the Company to publish, one time, a prepared Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the area affected by the Company's Application. The Notice of Filing indicated the nature of the proceedings and advised all interested parties of the manner and time to file pleadings for participation in these proceedings. The Company submitted an affidavit indicating that it had complied with these instructions. A Petition to Intervene was received from the Consumer Advocate for

the State of South Carolina (the Consumer Advocate).

By letter dated June 23, 1994, the Consumer Advocate advises the Commission that he no longer wishes to participate in any further proceedings in this matter. The Consumer Advocate states that his withdrawal is based upon discussions with AT&T which resulted in the filing of a revised tariff by AT&T which contains price reductions for the initial calling period. The Consumer Advocate's withdrawal is also based on certain assurances he received from AT&T that AT&T will not attempt to raise these prices for the remainder of 1994 and that AT&T will consult with the Consumer Advocate prior to any potential filing to raise these prices through June 1995.

According to the tariff filing, the purpose of this restructuring is to mitigate walk-away toll fraud at payphones accepting coins. Currently, customers pay for the first minute of usage and are not asked to deposit more money until the end of the fourth minute. Some customers hang-up before the end of the fourth minute when the operator has a chance to request that additional coins be deposited. AT&T submits that it is not a viable solution to interrupt the customer every minute to request addition money and offers that changing the initial period from one minute to three minutes will help alleviate this fraud problem. Additionally, customers will be notified at the beginning of the call that the initial deposit of coins is for the first three minutes of usage. Further, AT&T submits that Coin Sent Paid service represents under .38% of all AT&T calls in South Carolina and that this change will impact very few customers.

The Commission has examined this matter and believes, and so finds, that AT&T's tariff filing, as revised, should be approved. The Commission finds that approval of AT&T's revised tariff is in the public interest. Further, the Commission finds that the hearing scheduled for July 21, 1994, at 10:30 a.m. is not necessary and is therefore cancelled.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

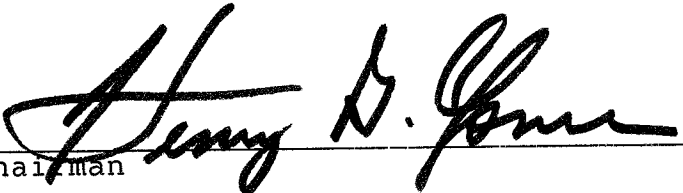
1. The request for approval of AT&T's revised Tariff No. 94-63 which restructures and reprices Coin Sent Paid service is hereby granted.

2. AT&T shall not raise the prices approved hereunder for the remainder of 1994 and shall consult with the Consumer Advocate prior to any potential filing to raise these prices through June 1995.

3. The hearing on this matter scheduled for July 21, 1994, at 10:30 a.m. is cancelled.

4. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)